

Fixed-Price Construction Contracts, but that do not contain a section entitled “Network Analysis System (NAS),” the contracting officer shall insert the clause at 852.236-82, Payments under fixed-price construction contracts (without NAS). When the solicitations or contracts include guarantee period services, the contracting officer shall use the clause with its Alternate I.

(b) In solicitations and contracts for construction that include the FAR clause at 52.232-5, Payments Under Fixed-Price Construction Contracts, and that also contain a section entitled “Network Analysis System (NAS),” the contracting officer shall insert the clause at 852.236-83, Payments under fixed-price construction contracts (including NAS). When the solicitations or contracts include guarantee period services, the contracting officer shall use the clause with its Alternate I.

[67 FR 49258, July 30, 2002]

### **Subpart 832.4—Advance Payments**

#### **832.402 General.**

The determination required by FAR 32.402(c)(1)(iii) will be made by the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Acquisition and Materiel Management. Prior to award, contracting officers will submit, through channels, the information required by FAR 32.409-1 for such determinations.

#### **832.404 Exclusions.**

(a) Under the provisions of 31 U.S.C. 3324(d)(2), as amended, advance payment is authorized for subscriptions or other charges for newspapers, magazines, periodicals and other publications for official use of any office under the Government from appropriations available therefore, notwithstanding the provisions of 31 U.S.C. 3324(a). The term “other publications” includes any publication printed, microfilmed, photocopied or magnetically or otherwise recorded for auditory or visual usage.

(b) Under the provisions of 31 U.S.C. 1535, advance payment may be made for services and supplies obtained from another Government agency. This in-

cludes items such as coupons from the Government Printing Office and Operator Permits, Civilian Defense Radio System, and from the Federal Communications Commission.

(c) Under the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 4109, advance payment may be made for all or any part of the necessary expenses for training Government employees in Government or non-Government facilities. This includes the purchase or rental of books, materials and supplies or services directly related to the training of a Government employee.

### **Subpart 832.5—Progress Payments Based on Costs**

#### **832.502 Preaward matters.**

##### **832.502-2 Contract finance office clearance.**

Prior approval of actions listed in FAR 32.502-2 will be obtained from the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Acquisition and Materiel Management (95). Requests for approval shall be accompanied by full justification together with the recommendations of the contracting officer.

[49 FR 12616, Mar. 29, 1984, as amended at 63 FR 69221, Dec. 16, 1998]

### **Subpart 832.8—Assignment of Claims**

#### **832.805 Procedure.**

##### **832.805-70 Distribution/notification of assignment of claims.**

(a) The Contracting officer will file the retained copy of the notice of assignment and the certified copy of the original instrument of assignment with the General Accounting Office copy of the contract.

(b) Contracting officers will notify field facilities of any recognized assignment of payments under contracts executed in Central Office or by the VA National Acquisition Center divisions in all cases where payment for articles and services under such contracts are

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certified and approved for payment in the field.

[49 FR 12616, Mar. 29, 1984, as amended at 54 FR 40065, Sept. 29, 1989; 63 FR 69221, Dec. 16, 1998]

### PART 833—PROTESTS, DISPUTES, APPEALS

#### Subpart 833.1—Protests

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#### Subpart 833.2—Disputes and Appeals

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833.212 Contracting officer's duties upon appeal.

833.214 Alternative dispute resolution (ADR).

AUTHORITY: 38 U.S.C. 501 and 40 U.S.C. 486(c).

#### Subpart 833.1—Protests

##### 833.102 General.

Solicitations shall instruct interested parties (see FAR provision 52.233-2) to deliver a copy of any protest filed with the General Accounting Office (GAO) to the contracting officer and the appropriate Central Office activity as follows:

(a) For contracts to be awarded by the Office of Facilities Management: Chief Facilities Management Officer, Office of Facilities Management, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420.

(b) For all other contracts: Deputy Assistant Secretary for Acquisition and Materiel Management, Acquisition Administration Team, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20420.

[51 FR 23070, June 25, 1986, as amended at 52 FR 28559, July 31, 1987; 54 FR 40065, Sept. 29, 1989; 58 FR 48974, Sept. 21, 1993; 61 FR 11586, Mar. 21, 1996; 63 FR 15318, Mar. 31, 1998]

##### 833.103 Protests to the Department.

(a) *Filing of protests.* (1) An interested party may protest to the contracting officer or, as an alternative, may re-

quest an independent review by filing a protest with the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Acquisition and Materiel Management, Acquisition Administration Team, or, for solicitations issued by the Office of Facilities Management, the Chief Facilities Management Officer, Office of Facilities Management. A protest filed with the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Acquisition and Materiel Management or the Chief Facilities Management Officer will not be considered if the interested party has a protest on the same or similar issues pending with the contracting officer.

(2) Protests must be in writing and addressed as follows:

(i) Contracting officer protests—address where offer/bid is to be submitted;

(ii) Deputy Assistant Secretary for Acquisition and Materiel Management, Acquisition Administration Team, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420; or

(iii) Chief Facilities Management Officer, Office of Facilities Management, Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420.

(3) Protests regarding certain issues may be dismissed by VA without consideration of the merits or forwarded to another agency for appropriate action. Among these protests are the following:

(i) *Contract administration.* The administration of an existing contract is within the discretion of the contracting agency. Disputes between a contractor and the Department are resolved pursuant to the disputes clause of the contract and the Contract Disputes Act of 1978. 41 U.S.C. 601-613.

(ii) *Small business size standards and standard industrial classification.* Challenges of established size standards or the size status of particular firms, and challenges of the selected standard industrial classification are for review solely by the Small Business Administration. 15 U.S.C. 637(b)(6); 13 CFR 121.3-6 (1984).

(iii) *Small business certificate of competency program.* Any referral made to the Small Business Administration pursuant to section 8(b)(7) of the Small